

**Minutes of the APSUO Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Argonne National Laboratory**  
**May 5, 20010**

**APSUO Steering Committee members in attendance:** E. Dufresne, P. Eng, P. Focia, P. Fuoss, J. Kropf, N. Leyarovska, L. Lurio, A. Mondragon, A. Sandy, R. Suter, D. Tiede

**APS Attendees:** L. Gades, R. Gerig, J. M. Gibson, M. Vigliocco-Hagen, J. Maclean, D. Mills, S. Strasser

**Routine Business:** The minutes of the January 14, 2010 APSUO Steering Committee meeting were approved.

Several members are retiring from the Committee: N. Campobasso, N. Leyarovska, L. Lurio, and L. Young. Gibson thanked them for their service.

Welcome to new members: E. Dufresne, P. Focia, M. Miller, and R. Suter.

As outgoing chair, Fuoss relayed his disappointment in the relatively small turnout for APSUO Steering Committee meetings. In the next year, attendance will be especially important as the APS prepares for CDR. The committee needs a breadth of experience and insight. Perhaps video links could be set up for these meetings to allow those who cannot travel to continue to participate.

**APSUO Responsibilities in the APS Upgrade—P. Fuoss**

Fuoss has served on the APS Upgrade Steering Committee for the past two years. With Fuoss' term ending in a year, he suggested that an additional APSUO member be added to the Committee to help maintain continuity. Teleconferencing could make it possible for a non-local person to serve in this role.

With CD0 status recently being awarded, it is a crucial time for effective communication from various parts of the User community. Fuoss suggested that one APSUO member serve on each of the CDR working groups; currently, about half of the groups have an APSUO member. Tiede will coordinate the appointment of APSUO members to each of the groups.

Gibson noted that the structure of planning will take on greater formality now that CD0 has been awarded. The accelerator side of the APS-U proposal includes all equipment behind the shield wall, regardless of what work is done at a given beamline. APS-U is a Major Items and Equipment (MIE) project, which is a little more flexible than a Construction project. Gibson welcomes the participation of members of this committee. The timing of APSUO meetings may need to change to fit key deadlines for the project.

Gibson stated that in forming the beamline advisory working groups, the APS has tried to include all areas of science. Protein crystallography and closely related areas of biology have posed a challenge because while some areas of biological research are funded by DOE Basic Energy Sciences (e.g. SAXS, bionanoprobe, biogeochemistry, soft material imaging, etc.), medical research is traditionally supported by NIH and other sources. The APS recognizes that all research communities are important to the health of the facility. In addition, BES recognizes that the level of funding they receive is partly influenced by the contributions of protein crystallography to the betterment of society. The APS seeks a plan that includes all areas of research but recognizes the need to leverage funding from other sources, like NIH. Dialogue with the protein crystallography community continues, with Bob Fischetti serving as a liaison. If necessary and appropriate, the APSUO may call upon Users for assistance in emphasizing the importance of APS-U to NIH or other funding sources.

#### **APSUO Steering Committee Responsibilities—D. Tiede**

Tiede noted that the APS User Meeting is the flagship project of this organization. He welcomes feedback on this year's meeting.

The APSUO is a powerful committee which has members on other important committees. Members are asked to please contact Tiede to let him know what committees they would like to join. For example, Tiede is hoping for more involvement of APSUO members on the User Advisory Committees. Each beamline has its own committee.

- One member asked how one hears about committees on which they might want to serve.
  - Vigliocco-Hagen suggests informing the APSUO of upcoming meetings of these committees.

Committee members were encouraged to consider attending the National User Facilities Organization (NUFO) Meeting in June.

#### **National User Facilities Organization (NUFO)—S. Strasser**

NUFO represents 36 national user facilities. The organization's responsibilities include User outreach and administrative improvements, for example streamlining User agreements and promoting industrial involvement at User facilities. NUFO's annual meeting is scheduled for June 7-9, 2010.

Fuoss suggested an area of User outreach that could be improved. Because APS is funded by DOE, staff are not allowed to send e-mail asking people to write their Congressmen about User issues. It would be helpful if a non-DOE facility would volunteer to send out e-mails about these issues. Please contact David if you can volunteer. It was noted that the University of Chicago may be one institution to ask for assistance. Because there are 7,000-10,000 Users, IT support would be needed.

### **Engaging Industry at APS—D. Mills**

Much of the access by industrial Users is currently through CAT beamtime (IMCA, LRL, DND, etc.). However, both proprietary and non-proprietary proposals come through the General User Program (GUP) and are reviewed by Proposal Review Panels (PRPs). Looking at the current PRP criteria, it seemed that changes were needed for industry-related experiments. For example, the criteria to be used for the 2010-3 run include “technological” importance, instead of only “scientific” importance. At present, industrial use accounts for only 4-5% of beamtime awarded at APS.

Industrial use tends to differ from academic use in several important ways:

- Measurement rather than experiment
- Often short term
- Probably proprietary
- Relatively immediate access needed
- May not have expertise to take measurements; assistance required
- Will not compete favorably through current access avenues
- New access type needed

In considering how to increase access of industrial Users, APS management has identified several questions regarding proprietary work:

- Should proprietary proposals be reviewed by the PRP?
  - Usually too vague to be evaluated well
  - If you pay, should you get time without peer review of the work—maybe just APS management review? Up to some percentage of beamtime?
- Often (but not always) quick access is required by industry
  - Keep a few days per cycle on APS beamlines for rapid access?
  - If no industry requests, reverts to GU/staff time?

Mills stated that it is important for the APSUO to try to address industrial users’ interests. He would appreciate comments from the Committee.

In the discussion that followed, several points were made:

- It was noted that some measurements can be done in a fraction of a shift (e.g. microtomography) and might be feasible to accommodate.
- How can staff help when it comes to proprietary use? They can collect data but cannot do the analysis, for example (per the Argonne Legal Department).
- In making decisions about support for industrial Users, APS management was reminded to be conscious of demands placed on beamline staff. Gibson confirmed that management is conscious of this issue.

**Concluding Business:** Responsibility was formally passed to D. Tiede.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 15, at which time the Committee will elect a vice-chair. The packet provided at this meeting has a booklet of bios for each member. Please consider who would be a good vice-chair. Strasser will e-mail a list of the position's responsibilities.